

## QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS FOR PON-12-506

January 23, 2013

1. **Can you confirm that governmental agencies such as a Waste Management District Joint Powers Authority are eligible applicants under this solicitation? They are not expressly listed in the eligible applicants section, but are listed as one of the three options of the application form. Government agencies and special districts, especially waste and wastewater districts are uniquely suited to lead this kind of project as they are daily managers and operators of valuable feedstock inputs that can be used to produce renewable transportation fuel.**

Answer: This solicitation is open to only three classes of applicants: (1) private sector applicants; (2) University of California (UC) applicants; and (3) federal applicants (e.g., Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory, Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory, and NASA). State governmental agencies other than UC applicants are ineligible to apply.

2. **Regarding CBE requirements, is the response to Q14 suggesting that governmental entities, schools, special districts and federal institutions in California do not qualify as CBEs? They would appear to fall into the category of "other business form", with headquarters/office in California and substantially manufactures the product or performs the research subject to the award.**

Answer: Business forms other than corporations that are organized for the transaction of business (for example, partnerships and sole proprietorships) may qualify as CBEs if they meet the CBE requirements specified in Attachment 11.

3. **As an emerging market, technological equipment necessary for production of these systems is provided by very few companies. Of these many have offices in California and offer California-based dealers for purchasing. However, most manufacturing of critical items occurs in other states. Is there any exemption from the CBE requirement for materials that cannot be manufactured in California, because no business offers such a product made in California and/or new manufacturing facilities can be reasonably be created within the term?**

Answer: At least 60% of PIER funds must be awarded to CBEs. Funding for equipment may be used to meet the 60% CBE requirement if an entity that falls within the definition of a CBE (see Attachment 11) receives PIER funds for providing the equipment. If the entity qualifies as a CBE on the basis that it has its headquarters in California, the equipment must be manufactured in California.

If the entity qualifies as a CBE on the basis that it has an office for the transaction of business in California, the equipment must be substantially manufactured in California.

4. **If equipment subject to this award is purchased through a California-based dealer with office in California, installed and operated in California and utilized to produce the renewable transportation fuel in California, used by vehicles operating in California throughout the grant term; and the research which is the subject of the award is designed to evaluate the effectiveness of this model for the advancement of RNG transportation fuel, would the equipment expenditure qualify as CBE?**

Answer: Please see the answer to question #3.